

What is claimed is:

1. A method for inhibiting cell adhesion mediated drug resistance in a patient in need thereof, comprising:

administering to said patient an effective amount of a peptide that inhibits cell adhesion mediated drug resistance.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said peptide comprises at least one D-amino acid.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein said peptide comprises the amino acid sequence:

kmviywkag

or a variant thereof.

4. The method of claim 2, wherein said peptide comprises RZ-3.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein said peptide is RZ-3.

6. A method for enhancing the efficacy of chemotherapy or radiation therapy in a patient in need thereof, comprising:

administering an effective amount of a peptide, wherein said peptide inhibits cell adhesion mediated drug resistance in said patient;

administering to said patient chemotherapy, radiation therapy, or both; whereby the efficacy of said therapy is enhanced.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein said peptide comprises at least one D-amino acid.

8. The method of claim 6, wherein said peptide comprises the amino acid sequence:

kmviywkag

or a variant thereof.

9. The method of claim 7, wherein said peptide comprises RZ-3.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein said peptide is RZ-3.

11. A method for treating cancer in a patient in need thereof comprising:

administering to said patient an effective amount of a peptide, wherein said peptide inhibits cell adhesion mediated drug resistance in said patient; and administering chemotherapy, radiation therapy or both.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein said peptide comprises at least one D-amino acid.

13. The method of claim 11, wherein said peptide comprises the amino acid sequence:

kmviywkag

or a variant thereof.

5 14. The method of claim 12, wherein said peptide comprises RZ-3.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein said peptide is RZ-3.

16. The method of claim 11, wherein said cancer is a myeloma.

17. The method of claim 11, wherein said cancer is multiple myeloma.

18. A peptide comprising D-amino acids and having a sequence:

10 kmviywkag

or a variant thereof.

19. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the peptide of claim 14 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

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